

THE OUTCROP.

Published Every Thursday in the heart of a Wonderfully Rich Mineral and Agricultural District.

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W. P. Evans, Proprietor of Publication.

Proprietor.

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OUR BIRTHDAY Just one year ago *The Outcrop* made its first shipment and has since made regular weekly shipments to various parts of the universe. One year has come and gone since we first made our original remarks to a small but clamorous circle of subscribers. Times were hard then for it was just after several mines had closed down, and the Province was in political chaos and some people had lost confidence in the country and themselves. We did not lose our faith in the future, but started out on the journalistic sea to tell the world of a district which we believed to be the most promising in Canada, and as a consequence we now find that even the then doubting ones agree with us—facts having been produced—that this section is on the verge of becoming the most prosperous in America.

During the past year we have had the pleasure of reporting wonderful strides of progress in North East Kootenay. The gloomy clouds which shadowed the mining industry have gradually been pushed away by the unwavering and ever hopeful miner and prospector, who showed their good judgment by developing their properties and continuing their searches.

Last summer when the hand of fate seemed to have turned against our district—by the "knocker" who spread his report to at least an even when men with money came to invest had the nerve to confidentially take them aside and advise them to leave, but happily without success—our prospectors' faith remained unshaken and, consequently, many gold strikes were made and deals put through.

Below we mention several of the more important doings since we first came to the front:

The Paradise was bombed and work started in June last and in eight months 1,000 tons of ore were landed at Columbia River, which is now being taken down to Golden and shipped to the smelter.

The McDonald Mines' although idle all summer, in the fall commenced work with a full force and is still working. The bond on this group was taken up two months before it was due.

The Phoenix and World's Fair worked all summer and continued until a few weeks ago. Work will again start in a short time.

Then there were a dozen other properties upon which a great deal of work was done, not to mention the annual assessment work on hundreds of claims.

The Government built a good wagon road 12 miles up Taky creek and trails up several other creeks.

While the past year, all things considered, has proved better than was foreshadowed, the year of 1901 gives much greater promise.

It has been demonstrated that the ore bodies are big and permanent ones and that the values are sufficiently high to yield a good profit to their owners. These facts combined with the assurance that a sure and steady market will be provided for our lead by the establishment of a Canadian refinery eliminates all and any reason why capitalists should not seek to invest here.

We have also several copper properties upon which enough work has been done to show good permanent bodies of pay ore, and which are now in the possession of men who have the money and inclination to work them.

Already we have several representatives of capital here seeking for investment and many others have announced their intentions of coming.

Taking everything into consideration the next few months will see great changes in this district.

Our agricultural resources are being developed on a much larger scale than last year as hundreds of ranches have been taken up and the old ranchers have broken and cleared more land.

We thank all our friends for their hearty support and ask their continuance. We will endeavor to give even justice to all and as a district paper will favor no particular place or person, but will do all we can with limited means to advance the best interests of North East Kootenay.

Our income has now swelled to more than five dollars monthly. We intend as time eludes the shaft of the future to further improve our plant and the stature of this paper.

We have several unpaid subs on the dump which we will have to run through the mill, when we get one. A few double-dyed reprobates have defrauded us out of our just dues, but we expect to get even with them before many moons fade into the past. Experienced men will tell you that no man mean and contemptible enough to beat an editor ever came to a good end. Nearly all who have got in trouble with us are Rossland men who have interests in townships in this beautiful as a dream valley, but if we cannot roast them sufficiently to get a \$3 anti, we have been assured that they will end in a raster that never goes off shift and where collateral cuts no ice.

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North East Kootenay.

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